

STATEWIDE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION NEEDS AND BENEFITS STUDY

FINAL REPORT (APRIL 1997)

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Transportation in Idaho has improved significantly. Service levels have increased, public transportation planning and administration has been strengthened, and an infrastructure to address coordination has been established. The following recommendations were suggested:

POLICY

- Develop PT goals and objectives to address governance, public involvement, environment, infrastructure, planning and development, and multi-modal transportation coordination.
- Review PT planning efforts and funding decisions.

PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING

- Review and define the relationship between state and local PT providers to facilitate efficient and effective planning and prioritization efforts.
- Develop criteria for prioritizing needs, a program and performance monitoring, and evaluation methods
- Develop an annual performance results report.

GOVERNANCE

- Ensure that the Regional Public Transportation Authorities (RPTA), serving primarily urban areas, do not adversely affect the nearby rural areas.
- Leverage the RPTA presence to enhance PT services in nearby rural areas.
- Provide incentives for RPTA to proactively address PT needs of areas outside the RPTA boundaries.

COORDINATION

- Use coordination strategies -- cooperation, joint use arrangements, and consolidation.
- Support coordination efforts by 1) funding staff assigned coordination duties for state and local entities and 2) adding incentive funding for coordination projects and for most appropriate, least-cost trips.

SERVICE

- Work with regional providers to prioritize PT needs in each region.
- Develop service strategies to address PT priority needs.
- Strive to continue regional menu of services to be most efficient and effective as possible.

FUNDING

- Strategize revenue to include federal, state, and local revenue sources.
- Establish a dedicated state revenue source for PT.
- Seek local revenue sources.
- Utilize efficient expenditures for PT services and facilities.

BENEFITS

- Identify proposed PT services and investments that best serve Idaho citizen and the transportation infrastructure.